

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00846 120803Z

13

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 111530Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3921

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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EXDIS

STR FOR AMBASSADOR EBERLE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, US

SUBJ: ARTICLE XXIV:6

REF: USEC 0233

1. JOURNAL DE GENEVE FEB. 11 HAD ARTICLE DATELINED
WASH FEB. 10 BY AGENCE FRANCE PRESS CITING AMB EBERLE
INTERVIEW WITH NY TIMES PUBLISHED FEB. 10 IN WHICH EBERLE
REPORTEDLY SAID IF EC DOES NOT PRESENT CONSTRUCTIVE
PROPOSALS BETWEEN NOW AND MARCH 10 TO RESOLVE XXIV:6
NEGOTIATIONS, US WILL BE OBLIGED TO START THE ADMINISTRA-
TIVE PROCEDURE TO RAISE US TARIFFS ON A CERTAIN NUMBER
OF EC PRODUCTS. ARTICLE SAYS US WOULD BE SATISFIED
WITH ABOUT 20 EC CONCESSIONS INCLUDING CITRUS, KRAFT
PAPER AND CEREALS, ADDING US NOT SEEKING A CONFRONTATION
WITH EC BUT SIMPLY RECOGNITION OF US GATT RIGHTS.

2. SIMILAR ARTICLE APPEARS IN PARIS EDITION INTER-
NATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE FEB. 11 WITH ADDITIONAL OB-
SERVATION THAT EC NOT PREPARED TO SUBMIT THIS
DISPUTE (DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE AS "...THE OUTCOME OF
ALMOST 15 YEARS OF US FRUSTRATION IN DEALING WITH
THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE CHILD THAT IT FOSTERED--A
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EUROPEAN CUSTOMS UNION") TO GATT PANEL FOR

ARBITRATION.

3. EC REP (LUYTEN) CALLED ECONCOUNSELOR MORNING FEB. 11 TO ASK (A) COULD WE VERIFY ACCURACY OF SWISS PRESS STORY, AND (B) IF IT IS ESSENTIALLY ACCURATE, HOW SHOULD EC INTERPRET IT IN LIGHT UNDERSTANDING REACHED JAN. 14 AT BRUSSELS MEETING BETWEEN AMB MALMGREN AND COMMISSION SOAMES ET AL TO AVOID ENGAGING IN PRESS DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE (PARA 4 REFTEL). ECONCOUNSELOR REPLIED HE HAD SEEN PRESS STORY BUT UNABLE CONFIRM ITS ACCURACY OR, PENDING STR GUIDANCE, RESPOND TO HIS SECOND INQUIRY. LUYTEN ASKED THAT WE ENDEAVOR OBTAIN REPLIES SINCE HE FELT THERE WOULD BE STRONG PRESSURES FROM AT LEAST SOME MEMBER STATES PROMPTLY TO "GO PUBLIC" WITH EC POSITION ON XXIV:6.

4. GUIDANCE REQUESTED. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WITH SOAMES IN WASH, STR COMMENTS LIKELY BE GIVEN DIRECTLY TO HIM IN FIRST INSTANCE BUT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF LINE WE SHOULD TAKE HERE. DALE

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Message Attributes

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